



MI-CW3410

Michigan Crop Weather

August 23, 2010

Light Precipitation

Six days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending August 22, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 0.24 inches in the east central Lower Peninsula to 1.45 inches in the eastern Upper Peninsula. Temperatures ranged from 0 to 1 degree above normal in the Upper Peninsula and 2 to 4 degrees above normal in the Lower Peninsula. The week resulted in a few light showers. The rain was welcomed, but did not have the impact some reporters were looking for. “There were scattered showers this past week but most areas received little or no rain. Crop deteriorated slightly this week,” stated one reporter in east central Lower Peninsula. Activities included harvesting, combining rye, baling straw, weed spraying, working on equipment, and tilling.

Field Crops

A welcomed rain shower soaked fields in the northwest Lower Peninsula over the weekend. Total rainfall amounts of one to two inches relieved a dry spell. This did little to ease the minds of farmers in southern counties who are still noticing dry field crops. A reporter in Monroe county said, “**soybeans** were starting to look weak from lack of rain.” Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS) was also found in many fields in southern Michigan. Some **corn** started to mature during the week although most remain in the dough to dent stage. Many fields showed signs of harvest being right around the corner. Silage harvest did begin in some counties. More was expected to begin this week. **Dry bean** and **sugarbeet** harvest was expected to begin this week on a limited basis. This is the earliest start for sugarbeet harvest on record. While harvest was the focus for most acreage, other areas were preparing for planting. Farmers continued to seed **alfalfa** on land where haying has finished. Unplanted acres from this spring were also being prepped for fall **wheat** planting.

Fruit

Soils remained dry in the southwest. Growing degree days and harvest continued to be about 2 weeks ahead of normal in the southwest and southeast. Harvest of early varieties of **apples** continued across the state. Growers continued to be concerned about obtaining good color with the warm nighttime temperatures in the Grand Rapids area. Codling moth and oriental fruit moth trap catches were up in the southwest and southeast. **Peach** growers harvested late season varieties. Harvest of European **plums** began in the southeast and was nearing completion in the Grand Rapids area. Lack of rain and potato leafhoppers continued to affect the growth of **strawberries**. **Pear** harvest has begun in the southeast. The quality of the crop in the southeast and southwest is poor due to frost/freeze damage that has affected fruit finish. Harvest of **blueberries** was wrapping up around the state. Many growers have completed harvest. **Grapes** continued to be in veraison in the southeast and southwest regions. Harvest of fall **raspberry** continued in the southwest and southeast regions.

Vegetables

Vegetables continued to progress and were harvested as development and conditions permitted. Disease pressure and insect activity has some growers concerned. Crops being harvested include, **carrots, onions, winter squash, cabbage, yellow squash, celery, zucchini** for fresh and processing, **cucumbers** for pickles, **sweet corn, potatoes, snap beans, peppers, watermelon, tomatoes** for fresh and processing, **eggplant, radishes, leeks, and lettuce**. Carrot harvest was underway with a high quality crop. Disease pressure was high, in several carrot fields, in Oceana County. Onions looked good but foliar diseases have been expensive and difficult to control. Harvest of cabbage has slowed due to later transplants this growing season. These late transplants looked good. Aphid counts on celery have been rising on celery. Harvest stages vary by grower. Sweet corn, this year, has had very little damage from European corn borer due to low or near zero trap counts; activity of other pests, such as corn earworm moths and western bean cutworm moths, has been significant. In Macomb County, tomato and pepper fields continue to be faced with blossom end rot problems. Tomatoes have had several bacterial problems this season. *Cladosporium* leaf mold has appeared in some greenhouse grown tomatoes in Macomb County. **Broccoli** and **cauliflower** continued to progress. Vine crops, such as **pumpkins** and **fall squash**, continued sizing. Pumpkins and **winter squash** were ripening ahead of schedule. It will be important to keep vines alive for as long as possible. Downy mildew was reported. **Melons** continued to progress and looked good. **Asparagus** disease pressure remained high last week but little rust had been reported this summer.

Soil moisture for week ending 08/22/10

Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	15	34	50	1
Subsoil	14	34	51	1

Crop condition for week ending 08/22/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All Hay	1	6	26	48	19
Corn	2	5	21	41	31
Dry beans	4	14	29	40	13
Pasture	5	9	34	38	14
Soybeans	3	5	21	45	26

Crop progress for week ending 08/22/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
All hay, second cutting	91	87	81	91
All hay, third cutting	50	41	29	43
All hay, fourth cutting	3	NA	0	0
Apples, harvested	7	6	5	3
Barley, harvested	99	85	NA	NA
Blueberries, harvested	91	88	79	81
Corn, dough	87	76	38	70
Corn, dent	54	27	3	21
Corn, mature	6	1	0	0
Corn silage, harvested	9	NA	0	1
Dry beans, setting pods	89	86	72	92
Dry beans, turning leaves	39	NA	4	22
Dry beans, dropping leaves	12	NA	0	4
Peaches, harvested	72	50	43	48
Potatoes, harvested	8	4	14	14
Soybeans, setting pods	97	87	77	93
Soybeans, turning leaves	4	NA	0	3

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 08/22/10 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2010	2009	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal Since April 1	Normal For month
Ironwood	81	48		1,820	1,368		1.26	2.41	5.35	18.49		
Marquette	75	50		1,775	1,256		1.42	2.57	5.51	18.65		
Stephenson	87	49		2,079	1,573		0.46	0.55	2.87	17.87		
Western UP	87	45	0	1,831	1,321	1,511	1.34	2.43	4.93	18.28	15.07	3.69
Cornell	80	50		1,986	1,446		0.10	0.12	2.31	16.43		
Sault St Marie	76	47		1,864	1,268		1.85	2.38	4.01	12.91		
Eastern UP	80	45	1	1,805	1,261	1,316	1.45	1.74	3.27	16.39	14.22	3.53
Beulah	85	56		2,182	1,643		0.95	0.96	2.42	15.22		
Lake City	85	44		2,067	1,563		1.06	1.20	2.71	19.50		
Old Mission	83	52		2,093	1,525		1.91	2.44	3.58	15.77		
Pellston	78	46		1,982	1,442		1.86	3.15	4.12	16.61		
Northwest	85	44	3	2,038	1,500	1,704	1.21	1.56	2.69	15.16	13.35	3.11
Alpena	83	49		2,019	1,551		1.27	2.25	2.70	17.08		
Houghton Lake	84	46		2,176	1,582		0.82	1.21	2.71	16.02		
Rogers City	83	49		1,897	1,527		2.25	3.20	4.44	20.47		
Northeast	85	46	2	2,064	1,543	1,653	1.39	2.10	3.06	18.34	13.45	3.12
Fremont	89	55		2,339	1,773		1.09	1.35	1.79	11.29		
Hart	90	52		2,239	1,686		2.06	2.70	3.14	16.64		
Muskegon	92	61		2,537	1,937		0.89	1.75	1.78	14.77		
West Central	92	50	4	2,331	1,772	1,860	1.37	2.04	2.40	14.65	13.76	3.60
Alma	89	58		2,418	1,846		0.61	3.03	3.20	19.92		
Big Rapids	89	54		2,268	1,701		1.87	3.27	3.55	18.75		
Central	89	54	4	2,334	1,763	1,932	1.06	2.53	3.04	16.50	14.65	3.64
Bad Axe	82	57		2,270	1,712		0.01	0.20	0.45	17.31		
Pigeon	82	53		2,244	1,685		0.12	0.46	0.91	13.90		
Saginaw	87	57		2,518	1,884		0.62	2.34	2.69	14.77		
Standish	83	50		2,199	1,674		0.53	2.00	2.66	19.99		
East Central	87	50	2	2,271	1,735	1,923	0.24	1.33	1.73	16.19	13.25	2.93
Fennville	91	61		2,392	1,864		0.57	1.80	1.87	23.98		
Grand Rapids	91	61		2,644	2,078		0.62	1.59	1.61	22.02		
Holland	94	60		2,605	2,166		0.43	1.13	1.63	29.19		
South Bend, IN	91	60		2,672	2,216		0.51	0.53	1.22	19.97		
Watervliet	90	60		2,547	2,023		0.54	1.37	1.86	19.18		
Southwest	94	57	3	2,536	2,039	2,088	0.61	1.37	1.81	21.07	15.34	3.18
Belding	89	57		2,345	1,790		0.94	1.52	1.81	16.65		
Coldwater	89	56		2,565	2,089		0.16	0.46	1.13	16.80		
Lansing	89	59		2,562	1,969		0.04	0.43	0.45	13.94		
South Central	90	55	3	2,458	1,937	2,063	0.29	0.96	1.26	18.11	15.36	3.36
Detroit	87	58		2,746	2,221		0.25	0.58	1.05	19.19		
Flint	89	57		2,533	1,918		0.00	0.24	0.31	13.44		
Romeo	88	55		2,424	1,917		0.40	0.44	0.82	13.43		
Tipton	90	53		2,488	1,971		0.51	1.20	1.43	21.23		
Toledo, OH	90	57		2,743	2,238		0.74	2.13	3.21	21.10		
Southeast	92	51	2	2,530	2,056	2,052	0.29	0.84	1.26	18.29	14.78	3.12

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.